Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 INT-08 DODE-00 SCEM-02 SCI-06

DRC-01 /192 W

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R 101126Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8066

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASYY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL KUWAIT 3991

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN ENRG PFOR KU

SUBJ: ATIQI INTERVIEW IN FINANCIAL TIMES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. NOV 7 LONDON FINANCIAL TIMES CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH MINISTER CONFIDENTIAL

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FINANCE AND OIL ATIQI IN WHICH HE PUBLICLY MAKES TWO IMPORTANT

POINTS. IN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS BY DAVID HOUSEGO ATIQI RULED OUT NATIONALIZATION OF AMERICAN OIL INTERESTS IN KUWAIT "ON POLITICAL GROUNDS". IN ANSWER TO QUERY WHETHER KUWAIT CONSIDERING USING MONETARY MEASURES TO SUPPLEMENT OIL CUTBACK ATIQI CITED LOSSES BY KUWAIT DURING DEVALUATIONS AND OTHER UPS AND DOWNS INTERNATIONAL CURRENCIES DURING RECENT PAST AND SAID "I DON'T THINK ARABS ARE FOOLS TO EXTENT TO ACT TO DESTROY OR HELP DESTROY MONETARY SYSTEM OF WORLD".

2. ON OTHER MATTERS ATIQI THANKED FRENCH FOR GOF STAND AND ISSUED STERN WARNING TO COUNTRIES PLANNING ON DEFYING ARAB OIL EMBARGO OF HOLLAND. ATIQI PURPOSELY WOULD NOT IDENTIFY "FRIENDLY" COUNTRIES WHO WOULD GET FULL SHARE OF OIL. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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3. COMMENT: ATIQI'S STATEMENTS RE NATIONALIZATION AND FINANCIAL WEAPONS WELCOME PARTICULARLY SINCE THEY UTTERED PUBLICLY TO WIDELY READ AND RESPECTED PERIODICAL. MOREOVER THEY CONSISTENT WITH STATEMENTS MADE PRIVATELY TO US BY GOK OFFICIALS OR WITH OUR

OWN ANALYSES OF WHAT GOK POLICY LIKELY TO BE. BELIEVE REMARK PLACING DECISION NOT TO NATIONALIZE IIIPOLITICAL CONTEXT SHOULD BE READ AS INDICATING GOK DESIRE TO GO ALONG WITH SAUDI ARABIA AND AGAINST THOSE SUCH AS IRAQ OR LOCAL LABOR UNIONS CALLING FOR SUCH A MOVE. IT ALSO CONTAINS SIGNAL THAT GOK WANTS MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH US. STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, NATIONALIZATION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, CURRENCY STABILITY, EMBARGOES

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: EFIN, ENRG, PFOR, KU

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005